

2014 Campership Application

Name: _____

DOB: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Financial Information

This section **must** be completed to qualify for a campership.

Family Size:
Adults _____ Children _____

Annual Family Income _____

Amount of: SSI _____
SSDI _____ TANF _____

I certify that the information provided on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(Parent or Guardian signature if under 18)



Please submit the completed application to:

**County of Mercer
Office for the Disabled
640 South Broad Street
P.O. Box 8068
Trenton, N.J. 08650-0068**

Applications must be received in this office by **Friday, March 21, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.**

**ABSOLUTELY NO
EXCEPTIONS!**

**Phone: 609-989-6661
Fax: 609-989-6032
www.mercercounty.org**

The Mercer County
Summer Campership Award program
is sponsored by the County of Mercer,
Office for the Disabled.

2014 Mercer County Summer Campership Award Program



Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

Campership Award Program

The Office for the Disabled awards funds to Mercer County residents ages 4 to 25 who have a disability to attend a summer program/camp of their choice. The 2014 Camp Scholarships will be awarded on a **first come - first serve** basis. The amount of the award is dependent upon the family's annual gross income and the total members residing in the household.

The Office for the Disabled anticipates many campership requests; therefore, no applications will be accepted after the deadline of Friday, **March 21, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.** The office staff strongly suggests that you return your application and pertinent documents as soon as you can, as it is possible for all campership funds to be expended before the deadline date.

This brochure/application also is available at <http://nj.gov/counties/mercercer/departments/hs/disabililty.html>.



Program Requirements

The following documents need to be returned:

- Application
- Copy of birth certificate (if child is new to program)
- Copy of annual income tax statement, TANF and/or SSI check
- Copy of child's cover page and evaluation stating diagnosis from the IEP

You must include proof/copies of **family** income (prior year income tax return) or two most recent SSI/SSDI/TANF checks for each individual applicant. Failure to do so will result in ineligibility for an award.

Once you receive notification verifying the awarded campership, you must contact the camp/program to secure placement. Do **NOT** under any circumstance, email, fax or drop off any camp reservation information until a letter of award from the Office has been issued, as this information will not be accepted/able.

Many times, the camp requests a deposit to be mailed with their application. This deposit is your responsibility and should be included with the camp application. Please note that any expenses beyond the awarded campership are to be covered by the parent/guardian.

Assistance

If you need help selecting a camp placement, a camp directory containing information on camp costs, accessibility, location and environment relating to accommodations or mainstreaming is published by the *Princeton Packet*. Copies are available by contacting the Princeton Packet at (609) 924-3244. Additional information on some accessible camps is available by contacting the Office at (609) 989-6661.

Suggestions to ask the camp director

Before enrolling a child in a summer camp program, parents should ask the camp director the following questions:

- What is the ratio of campers and counselors?
- What percentage of campers and staff return to the camp?
- How is staff screened? Are references checked for all staff that have access to children, including people like aides and bus drivers?
- What is a typical day's schedule; how structured is it?
- How will the camp deal with the specific needs of your child?

- How is medication distributed and by whom?
- What type of medical insurance does the camp carry?
- Ask for a typical menu. Is there a snack area/cafeteria?
- If a mainstreamed camp, have they had children with disabilities before? How was the situation handled and was it successful?
- Are academics available?
 - Is there tutoring or a program?
 - What are the backgrounds of those teaching?
- Ask for the location of the local hospital.
- Who does your child go to if he or she has a problem with his or her counselor?
- Is there a consistent policy about discipline? Do you agree with the policy?
- What is the camp's refund policy?
- If the children will be picked up by a bus or van, will there be someone other than the driver to provide supervision?
- What is the policy regarding who can get onto the campgrounds?
- What is the policy about picking up and dropping off children? Could any one pick up your child without your permission?